

Is a 'Cosmic Watergate' keeping UFOs a secret?

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Clark McClelland claims to know all about visitors from outer space — even to descriptions of their internal organs and the types of clothes they wear.

They do not, according to his presentation, look like Steven Spielberg's "E.T." But he didn't say whether they eat candy or drink beer.

McClelland, in fact, did his best Thursday at a Weber State College convocation to give the impression that these "real" extra-terrestrials are a deep dark secret, being kept from us all in what he calls the "Cosmic Watergate."

Whether a coverup really is going on, though, was something he never actually went out on a limb and said. His strong implications that authorities are concealing the existence of UFOs consisted entirely of second-hand reports and fuzzy pictures.

Nevertheless, he said, he is certain that visitors from outer space have been here. Several times.

Much of his talk is familiar to fans of things from outer space.

What he was talking about has been reported regularly in publications like the National Enquirer, McClelland said.

He never did show a picture of a man from space, although he claimed that someone recently gave him some autopsy photos of one. Because he still had to investigate the photos for authenticity, he told the crowd, he couldn't show them.

He has a model of a "man from space" which he displayed during his talk. It's as close as he can get to showing the real thing, he said, based on descriptions of witnesses who had seen the creatures.

McClelland has been working on the question of visitors from outer space since 1948.

In 1953, he organized one of the first civilian groups to investigate UFO sightings. He said he used to work for the National Space Program at Cape Canaveral, Fla., although he didn't explain in what capacity.

His argument for the existence of UFOs and men from outer space is based on reported sightings, combined with the billions of other stars similar to our sun and the planets that presumably surround them.

And McClelland said space ships have crashed on this planet: Near Roswell, N.M., on July 7, 1947, and again on April 12, 1954, space vehicles of some sort crashed and bodies of men very much like his model were recovered, he contended.

"I'm saying flatly it did crash," he said. "This is probably the first recorded instance of crash retrieval we have."

He said materials found at the first crash site proved to be unworldly — aluminum foil-like metal that couldn't be bent or melted, writing on instrument panels in the ship similar to hieroglyphics.

He left hanging, though, the fate of these objects and bodies. The military has them, he implied, but he didn't name a branch of the service, or a location, where the items are stored.

"So do we have a cosmic Watergate?" he asked. "I'll leave that for you to determine." He said he's sure that visitors from outer space have been here, "and if the governments of our planet are involved in cloaking that event, perhaps in your lifetime you'll see them return again."